# Virginia Green Visitor Center Profile:





# Prince William County Visitor Center 200 Mill Street Occoquan

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY/MANASSAS CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

"Here at the Prince William County Visitor Center we hope to encourage our guests to participate in recycling and green practices not only here but at home."

**Green Statement:** "We care about the future of our local community, the state of Virginia and the impact we have on the environment. As a public facility using green practices we hope to set an example and encourage others to use these actions at work and at home."

## **GREEN ACTIVITIES**

- Recycling and Waste Reduction. Virginia Green facilities must recycle Glass Bottles and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:
  - Offer the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, newspaper, office paper
  - Recycle: office paper, printer/toner cartridges, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
- Minimization of Disposables. Participants are encouraged to minimize use of all disposables. This facility pledges that they:
  - Use disposable foodservice items that are made with recycled content
  - Use disposable foodservice items that are recycable
- Solid Waste Reduction. The facility must have a plan for actively working to reduce its solid waste generation. This facility pledges that they:

#### Restrooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Use high-efficiency hand dryers

#### Office

- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Purchase recycled paper with a high-percentage recycled content
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

### **Buildings and Grounds**

Use green cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk

- Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping
- Our landscaping company has pledged to manually pull weeds and not to use any chemicals.
- Water Conservation. The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:
  - Track overall waster usage to stop drips and leaks

#### Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed low flow toilets
- Check to make sure sink faucets are turned off

#### Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan which includes the utilization of native species and minimizes lawn areas
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- ☑ Energy Conservation. The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:
  - Track overall energy bills

# Heating and cooling

- Have individual thermostats for each room/area and ensure they are correctly adjusted
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on

# Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T-5 and T-8)
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning

#### Appliances and electronic devices

- Use ENERGY STAR qualified office equipment (computers, monitors, copiers, printers, etc.)
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other devices in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used
- Support Virginia Green. Pledge to promote the efforts of Virginia Green to clients, members and staff and encourage them to join or do business with Virginia Green participants. This facility pledges that they:
  - Feature the Virginia Green lodging facilities, restaurants and attractions from our region
  - Encourage clients who are in the tourism industry to join Virginia Green
  - Set a goal for recruiting their membership facilities

For more information on Prince William County Visitor Center, see <a href="https://www.visitpwc.com">www.visitpwc.com</a> or contact Dolores Elder at delder@visitpwc.com or 703-491-4045.

*Virginia Green* is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green Visitor and Welcome Centers* have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the

environment. This attraction has met the established "core activities" for *Green Visitor and Welcome Centers* and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests.

For more information on *Virginia Green* program, see <u>www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen</u> or <u>www.virginiagreentravel.org</u>.



Virginia Green is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.





